

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BIE, SENV, SCUL, JA, FR

SUBJECT: FRENCH PARTICIPATION AT SPOKANE 1974 INTER-
NATIONAL EXPOSITION

REF: STATE 172336

1. INTEREST OF EUROPEAN COUNTRIES IN PARTICIPATING AT
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SPOKANE CONTINUES EVIDENT IN SEVERAL CAPITALS. HOWEVER
DECISION OF FRENCH GOVERNMENT IS STILL A KEY FACTOR.

FRENCH FINANCE MINISTER GISCARD ASSURED AMBASSADOR IRWIN AND US COMMISSIONER GENERAL WELLES HENDERSON THAT FRENCH DECISION WOULD BE MADE BY END AUGUST. NO SUCH DECISION HAS YET COME FROM PARIS.

2. GISCARD IN TOKYO THIS WEEK FOR GATT MTN MEETINGS. SINCE TREASURY SECRETARY SHULTZ HAS RECENTLY WRITTEN GISCARD A LETTER RECOMMENDING FAVORABLE DECISION, EMBASSY PARIS HAS SUGGESTED TO HENDERSON THAT LYLE WIDMAN, WITH SHULTZ ON DELEGATION, SHOULD RAISE SPOKANE QUESTION WITH GISCARD AIDE, JEAN PIERRE DUTET. ALTERNATIVELY, DIRECT SHULTZ INITIATIVE WITH GISCARD WOULD BE APPRECIATED.

3. US GOVERNMENT HOPES FRENCH DECISION WILL BE FAVORABLE AND WILL RESULT IN AN EXHIBIT AT SPOKANE AS IMPRESSIVE AS THE ONE ASSEMBLED ON THE THEME "QUALITY OF LIFE" AT THE

BIE-REGISTERED INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION AT SPOKANE IN 1962.

4. DEPENDING ON READING OF THIS SITUATION IN TOKYO, DEPARTMENT ANTICIPATES AMBASSADOR IRWIN WILL RAISE MATTER DIRECTLY WITH GISCARD UPON LATTER'S RETURN PARIS.

5. PROGRESS CONTINUES ON INTERNATIONAL SIDE OF SPOKANE PROJECT: GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO HAS REACHED FAVORABLE DECISION TO PARTICIPATE AND IT APPEARS REASONABLY LIKELY GOVERNMENT OF CANADA WILL RECONSIDER NEGATIVE DECISION IN LIGHT FIRM INTENT OF BRITISH COLOMBIA AND PERHAPS OTHER WESTERN PROVINCES TO BE REPRESENTED. RUSH

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